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NEWS RELEASE

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FAIRFIELD WOMAN CONVICTED OF MAKING FALSE CLAIMS FOR HURRICANE KATRINA DISASTER MONEY

SACRAMENTO—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced that SHARON N. DAILEY, 37, of Fairfield, pleaded guilty today before United States District Judge Frank C. Damrell, Jr. to three counts of making false claims and a single count of credit application fraud.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation with the assistance of the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General.

In September 2005, the Attorney General created the Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force, designed to deter, investigate, and prosecute disaster-related federal crimes such as charity fraud, identity theft, procurement fraud, and insurance fraud. The Hurricane Katrina Fraud Task Force—chaired by Assistant Attorney General Alice S. Fisher of the Criminal Division—includes the FBI, the United States Inspectors General community, the United States Secret Service, the United States Postal Inspection Service, the Executive Office for United States Attorneys, and other agencies.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who is prosecuting the case, DAILEY admitted that she made three false claims for United States Government funds intended for Hurricane Katrina disaster victims and succeeded in obtaining over \$4,358. DAILEY submitted documents to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) certifying false information in order to obtain housing financial assistance intended for needy victims of the Katrina disaster. DAILEY was a

permanent resident of California at the time she made her false claims. DAILEY also pled guilty to using another person's credit information to purchase a vehicle by fraud.

DAILEY is scheduled to be sentenced on April 18, 2008. The maximum penalty she faces is 45 years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000, and a three-year term of federal supervised release. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

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